Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of playing a solitaire game comprising:

providing a set of game pieces, wherein the game pieces have first means for grouping the game pieces into at least four groups, and wherein the game pieces have second means for ordering the game pieces in each group, and wherein the game pieces have third means capable of grouping the game pieces into two separate groups, whereby said third means is ~~interleaved within each group ordered by the first indicia;~~ distributed among the groups ordered by the first means;

providing a game board having a home area, a field area, a reserve area, and a stock area that each have a plurality of locations for placement of game pieces, wherein the field area and the reserve area intersect for transfer of game pieces from the reserve area to the field area;

distributing the game pieces into the reserve area, the field area, and the stock area so that each of the plurality of locations for placement of game pieces in the reserve area are occupied with game pieces and wherein the first means for grouping, second means for ordering and third means for grouping are positioned on the game board so that all are constantly visible and readable during the entire duration of game play;

moving the game pieces from the stock area and the reserve area to and within the field area wherein the game pieces are placed in the field area in groups pursuant to the third means for grouping and wherein the game pieces are placed in the field area so that the game pieces are ordered pursuant to the second means for ordering; and

moving the game pieces from the field area and the stock area to the home area

wherein the game pieces are placed in the home area in groups pursuant to the first means for grouping and wherein the game pieces are placed in the home area so that the game pieces are ordered pursuant to the second means for ordering.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the groups of the first means have equal number of game pieces.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the second means for ordering the game pieces in each group orders the game pieces in each group in an identical manner.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the groups of the third means have an equal number of game pieces.

Claim 5 (original): A solitaire game comprising:

a plurality of game pieces that each have a first means for grouping the game pieces into at least four groups, a second means for ordering the game pieces in each group, and a third means grouping the game pieces into two groups;

at least one strategy pieces for use with the plurality of game pieces to indicate whether an individual game piece is needed; and

a game board having a home area, a field area, a reserve area, and stock area that each have plurality of locations for placement of game pieces.

Claim 6 (original): The solitaire game of claim 5, wherein each of the game pieces in the plurality of game pieces is adapted to receive at least one of the strategy pieces.

Claim 7 (original): The solitaire game of claim 6, wherein each of the game pieces in the plurality of game pieces has a plurality of recesses that are each adapted to at least partially receive one strategy piece.

Claim 8 (original): The solitaire game of claim 7, wherein the plurality of recesses are

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oriented on each of the game pieces to indicate the relative need of the individual game pieces.

Claim 9 (original): The solitaire game of claim 5, wherein the strategy pieces have means for indicating the relative need of the game piece on which the strategy piece is placed.

Claim 10 (original): The solitaire game of claim 9, wherein the strategy pieces are pegs, and wherein the means for indicating relative need of the game piece are at least two colored regions on a surface of the peg.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A solitaire game comprising:

a set of game pieces, wherein the game pieces have first means for grouping the game pieces into at least ~~four~~ six groups; and wherein the game pieces have second means for ordering the game pieces within each of the at least ~~four~~ six groups; and wherein the game pieces have third means capable of grouping the game pieces into two separate groups, wherein said third means is ~~interleaved within each group ordered by the first indicia.~~ distributed among the groups ordered by the first means.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The solitaire game of claim 11 ~~is~~ further comprising a game board having a home area, a field area, a reserve area, and a stock area that each have a plurality of locations for placement of game pieces.

Claim 13 (original): The solitaire game of claim 11 further comprising a means for a set of rules for game play that resolve all possible deadlocks during game play.

Claim 14 (cancelled): The solitaire game of claim 13 further comprising a means for subtracting points from the game score to compensate for the use of the rules to resolve deadlock.

Claim 15 (original): The solitaire game of claim 11 further comprising a means for a set of rules of game play for two players.

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Claim 16 (cancelled):   the solitaire game of claim 11 further comprising a means for scoring game play that rewards a player incrementally for consecutive final placement of multiple pieces within a single first means for grouping without other intervening moves.

Claim 17 (original):   The solitaire game of claim 11 further comprising a means for displaying the game pieces on a game board having an array that shows the changing relations among the game pieces.

Claim 18 (cancelled): A game comprising:

a set of game pieces, wherein the games pieces have first indicia for grouping the game pieces into two or more sets; and wherein the game pieces have second indicia for ordering the game pieces within the two or more sets; and wherein alternating colors are applied to the second indicia.

Claim 19 (cancelled): The solitaire game of claim 18 further comprising a game board having a home area, a field area, a reserve area, and a stock area that each have a plurality of locations for placement of game pieces.

Claim 20 (cancelled): A game board comprising:

a home area, a field area, a reserve area, and a stock area that each have a plurality of locations for placement of game pieces, wherein the field area and the reserve area intersect for transfer of game pieces from the reserve area to the field area.

Claim 21 (new): The solitaire game of claim 1 further comprising providing a means for resolving game play that is deadlocked.